

Appendix G: Processing and Updating Utility Claim Data with Evaluation Results Data

The utility energy efficiency program tracking data forms the basis for critical program reporting functions and for evaluation sampling and execution.

Over the course of the 2010-2012 program cycle, the Commission and the utilities housed all applicable, claimed values in a set of relational tables that were referenced by quarterly utility claims. This data set is the foundation for the values in this report, and it was compared and reconciled with publicly available monthly and annual reports from the utilities.

By the end of the 2010-2012 program cycle, the IOUs submitted consistent and uniform quarterly claims along with corresponding ex-ante data tables. The ex-ante and claim data were consistent and uniform across all IOUs. This consistency significantly reduced data cleaning and processing time to compile the data needed to calculate cost effectiveness and produce Commission reports and enabled the development of the Energy Efficiency Statistics Data Portal. The steps for cleaning and processing the IOU submitted data are described in this appendix.

Preparation of IOU Quarterly Tracking Data for Reporting

Each quarter, the following steps are performed to process IOU reported data for the Energy Division, it is followed by an illustration of the process.

IOU Claim Submissions (CPUC)

1. Receive FTP link to download data from IOUs
2. Bring IOU data submissions onto ED Central Server (EDCS) and into SQL Server database
3. Write IOU data together into standardized tables
4. Join claim tables to the ex ante database for deemed claims; write data into "EDFilled" table
5. Quality check the data submission

Evaluation Results Submissions (CPUC)

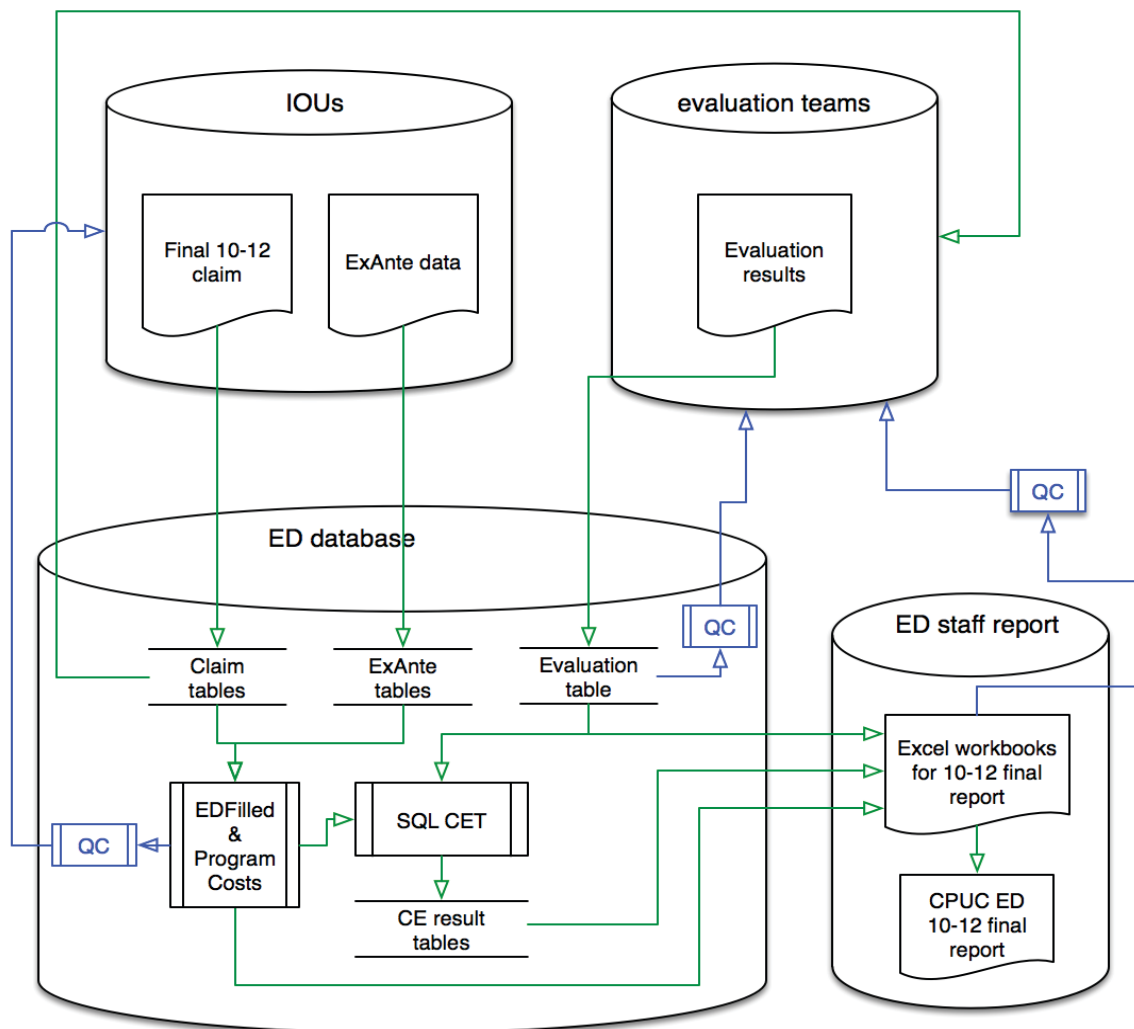
1. Evaluation team posts data submission file to EDCS
2. Bring evaluation data into SQL Server database
3. Write evaluation data together into the Evaluation table
4. Quality check the data submission

Cost Effectiveness Run (CPUC)

1. Run EDFilled and Evaluation tables through the Cost Effectiveness Tool (CET)
2. Write CET results into SQL Server database
3. Validate and quality check CET results against SQL savings calculations and monthly reports Report Preparation (CPUC)

Final step. Summarize data to produce result sets for Energy Division staff to use in evaluated program cycle reporting.

Figure G-1 Claims Processing



Data Cleaning

Although the IOU claims improved considerably from the 2006-2008 cycle, the central data set still required some level of data cleaning to enable processing through the cost effectiveness tool. Data elements such as Target Sector, Climate Zone, Costs, and other parameters necessary for evaluation and cost effectiveness calculations were cleaned by the CPUC evaluation contractors in conjunction with IOU staff. Throughout the cycle, the amount of data cleaning necessary was continuously reduced as IOUs improved their reporting capabilities. The result of the data cleaning process was a table named “EDFilled,” which contains all cleaned ex-ante IOU data necessary to run through the CET.

Validation and Quality Control

The main component of the Energy Division's data cleaning process were several quality control algorithms that were developed early in the 10-12 cycle and refined and enhanced throughout the cycle. All quality control algorithms were communicated to the IOUs via the 2010-2012 Data Transfer Tool, an Access file that the IOUs could use to transfer their quarterly tracking data to the ED and QC their own data before transferring. The link to this tool on EESStats is: http://eestats.cpuc.ca.gov/EEGA2010Files/GuidanceDocuments/Q12_Data_Transfer_Tool_May_Update.accdb

The end product was a clean, consistent data set of claims which were ready for evaluation sampling and update.

